

HCS HB 657 -- MAINTENANCE MEDICATIONS

SPONSOR: Rhoads

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

Currently, the dispensing of maintenance medication based on refills authorized by a physician or prescriber are limited to a 90-day supply of the medication and the maintenance medication must have been previously prescribed to the patient for at least a three-month period. This bill increases the medication supply limit to 180 days and removes the requirement that the medication was previously prescribed to the patient for a three-month period.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will allow non profit organizations to provide prescription medications for indigent clients at a much lower cost.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Rhoads and RX Outreach.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on this bill say that this bill should not apply to traditional health carriers.

Testifying for informational purposes was the Missouri Insurance Coalition.